COLORADO CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

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Archbishop of Denver, Colorado

Most Reverend Arthur N. Tafoya, D.D.
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Most Reverend Richard C. Hanifen, D.D.
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Mr. Douglas M. Delaney
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COLORADO CATHOLIC CONFERENCE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' STATEMENT ON "NO PROTECTED STATUS" (NPS) REFERENDUM

The Colorado Catholic Conference Board of Governors, consisting of the Most Reverend J. Francis Stafford, Archbishop of Denver; the Most Reverend Arthur N. Tafoya, Bishop of Pueblo; and the Most Reverend Richard C. Hanifen, Bishop of Colorado Springs, has issued a public statement on the proposed ballot initiative regarding the following:

> "Shall there be an amendment to Artcile II of the Colorado Constitution to prohibit the State of Colorado and any of its political subdivisions from adopting or enforcing any law or policy which provides that homosexual, lesbian or bisexual orientation, conduct, or relationships constitutes or entitles a person to claim any minority or protected status, quota preferences, or discrimination?"

The Board of Governors' statement is as follows:

> "The ambiguous language of the proposed amendment confuses the crucial distinction between homosexual 'orientation' and homosexual 'conduct' or 'relationships.' In the Catholic tradition, recognition of this distinction is absolutely essential to preserve respect for the dignity of persons. Therefore, the Colorado Catholic Conference declines to take a position on the 'No Protected Status' proposed initiative."